

Agency: Natural Resources**Project Title:****Project Type:** Maintenance and Repairs

Turnagain Arm Trail Maintenance and Extension - Alaska Long Trail

State Funding Requested: \$370,000
One-Time Need**House District:** 28 / N**Brief Project Description:**

Upgrade sections of degraded, very popular trail; one link on the Girdwood to Anchorage braid of Long Trail

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$370,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2023 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$370,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

Detailed Project Description and Justification:**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The Turnagain Arm Trail follows a supply and support route created during the 1910s to aid the construction of the Alaska Railroad. This trail meanders above the Seward Highway and offers sweeping views of Turnagain Arm. Thanks to its southern exposure, this is one of the first snow-free trails in the spring.

The Turnagain Arm Trail is 9.5 miles one way and accessed from several trailheads along the Seward Highway: Potter Creek, McHugh Creek, Rainbow Creek, and Windy Corner. Along its current course, the trail bridges several creeks, travels through eroded, muddy terrain, and continues along cliffs where landslides have been sloughing off sections of trail. A comprehensive list of maintenance needs has been identified and are needed for this popular year-round trail.

The Chugach State Park Trail Management Plan includes a roughly 1.5-mile extension of the southern terminus at Windy Corner to the Falls Creek Trailhead. This section of trail would switchback over a rocky ridge extending from South Suicide Peak to an elevation of approximately 500' ASL and offer immense views of the head of Turnagain Arm. This extension would tie into the existing Falls Creek Trailhead and terminate at the established trailhead there.

ESTIMATED COST**Maintenance Needs:**

Boardwalk and tread materials: 50K

McHugh Creek Bridge resurfacing: 20K

Retaining structure improvements: 50K

Labor and dirt work: 100K

New trail segment: 150K

2022 Legislature

TPS Report 66761v1

Total: 370K

Project Timeline:

2023

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

AK DNR Division of Outdoor Recreation

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name: Ben Corwin
Title: Superintendent, Chugach State Park
Address: 18620 Seward Hwy
Anchorage, Alaska 99516
Phone Number: (907)345-5014
Email: csp@alaska.gov

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No